

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Fernandez  
Serial No. : 10/763,689  
Filed : January 26, 2004  
For : Variable Angle Locked Bone Fixation System  
Group Art Unit : 3775  
Confirmation No. : 3533  
Examiner : Ramana, Anuradha

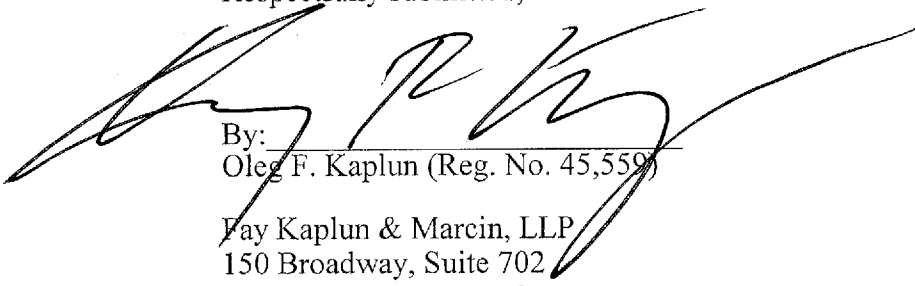
Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL**

Transmitted herewith please find an Amendment under Rule 116 in response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 28, 2009 for filing with the USPTO in the above-identified application. Since the Amendment is being filed within two months of the Final Office Action mailing date, Applicant respectfully requests that the USPTO's response be issued before the expiration of the three month period of the Final Office Action mailing date (i.e., by April 28, 2009). No fees are believed to be required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees to the Deposit Account of **Fay Kaplun & Marcin, LLP No. 50-1492**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 30, 2009

By:   
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